

Washington, DC -- Congressman Vern Buchanan announced today that former City of Sarasota Vice Mayor Danny Bilyeu has joined the Congressman's staff as a field representative based in the Sarasota District office. Bilyeu will represent the Congressman at meetings and events in Sarasota, DeSoto, and Charlotte Counties and advise Buchanan on federal issues that impact the region.

"As a community activist, a Sarasota City Commissioner and Vice Mayor, Danny Bilyeu has a long history of public service," said Buchanan. "We are fortunate to have someone of Danny's experience and abilities working with us. The people of Florida's 13th Congressional District will benefit from his service."

Bilyeu served for four years as a Sarasota City Commissioner and one year as Vice Mayor. As a city commissioner, Bilyeu served as a member of the Metropolitan Planning Organization and the National League of Cities. Prior to serving on the city commission, he was President of the Downtown North Neighborhood Association and involved with several other citizen groups and community organizations.

"I have known Congressman Buchanan for several years," said Bilyeu. "I have always respected him as a business and community leader. As a Member of Congress for just a few short months, he has already established himself as a hard worker on behalf of his constituents and a thoughtful lawmaker with a common sense agenda. I am honored to work with Congressman Buchanan on behalf of the people of Florida's 13th Congressional District."

In addition to Bilyeu, Kirsten Minor of Bradenton recently joined Buchanan's district staff as a field representative based in the Bradenton Office. Minor will represent the Congressman in Manatee and Hardee Counties. The freshman lawmaker has also hired Spencer Bell, originally of Sarasota to work as a constituent service representative in his Bradenton District office. In addition to Bilyeu, Minor, and Bell, constituent service representatives Joan Hansen and Barbara Bazell and District Director Ron Turner staff the Sarasota District office.